

## THE DAILY MISSOURIAN

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Member, Audit Bureau of Circulations.

Col. Robert Morris White—better known as forty years owner and editor and more affectionately known as Bob of the Ledger at Mexico, capital of Audrain County. He has served many good causes and, we trust, has many more years of radiant usefulness. A state full of Bob Whites would be a long way ahead of any American commonwealth of the present day.

## THE WILSON PLAN

President Wilson's recommendations to congress regarding the acute conflict which threatens to result in a railroad strike constitute a most comprehensive plan for the composition of difficulties between capital and labor. They may well be restated in the Missouriian as of historic interest and immediate importance.

The President made six specific recommendations to Congress:

"First—Immediate provision for the enlargement and administrative reorganization of the Interstate Commerce Commission along the lines embodied in the bill recently passed by the House of Representatives and now awaiting action by the Senate; in order that the commission may be enabled to deal with the many great and various duties now devolving upon it with a promptness and thoroughness which are with its present constitution and means of action practically impossible.

"Second—The establishment of an eight-hour day as the legal basis alike of work and wage in the employment of all railway employees who are actually engaged in the work of operating trains in interstate transportation.

"Third—The authorization of the appointment by the President of a small body of men to observe the actual results in experience of the eight-hour day in railroad transportation alike for the men and for the railroad; its effects in the matter of operating costs, in the application of the existing practices and agreements to the new conditions and in all other practical aspects, with the provision that the investigators shall report their conclusions to the Congress at the earliest possible date, but without recommendation as to legislative action, in order that the public may learn from an unprejudiced source just what actual developments have ensued.

"Fourth—The explicit approval by the Congress of the consideration by the Interstate Commerce Commission of an increase of freight rates to meet such additional expenditures by the railroads as may have been rendered necessary by the adoption of the eight-hour day and which have not been offset by administrative readjustment and economies, should the facts justify the increase.

"Fifth—Amendment of the existing Federal statute, which provides for the mediation, conciliation and arbitration of such controversies as the present by adding to it a provision that in case the methods of accommodation now provided for should fail, a full public investigation of the merits of every such dispute shall be instituted and completed before a strike or lockout may lawfully be attempted. And

"Sixth—The lodgement in the hands of the Executive of the power, in the case of military necessity, to take control of such portions and such rolling stock of the railways of the country as may be required for military use and to operate them for military purposes, with authority to draft into the military service of the United States such train crews and administrative officials as the circumstances require for their safe and efficient use."

The first recommendation, if enacted into law, would make the Interstate Commission effective in enforcing the decisions which it is permitted to announce. The second would establish the eight-hour working day. The third would provide means for finding out the results of the eight-hour day. The fourth would give approval for consideration of measures to meet by increase of rates or otherwise new conditions arising from an eight-hour day. The fifth makes a strike or lockout unlawful until after

full public investigation. The sixth gives the executive power to commandeer, in case of military necessity, all railroads.

Taken together the Wilson recommendations constitute a charter of liberty for the public from unreasonable exaction of railroad owners and railroad employees. They put the real control of the great public utilities in the hands of the public.

It is about time to consider a big Boone County banquet. Here's a chance for the Commercial Club to plan an all-county affair.

## The Open Column

## About Pruning Trees.

Editor the Missouriian: Much has been said against the linemen of the city for pruning the shade trees along Columbia streets. The wire men insist that they must get the offending wires out of the way so they can connect up broken-down wires. The subject, in time of perfect weather fades away, only to loom up again when hail and storm break down the light and telephone wires.

Most tree pruning in Columbia is done during thunder storms, more often in the night than in the day, by linemen who do not know how to prune trees and who could not do it properly if they knew how because of the speed with which they must work and the danger they face in handling the wires.

But two or three electricians are employed by the city. In good weather these men have little to do, but in time of storm they must repair broken wires as quickly as possible. They must cut off offending limbs in the easiest, quickest and safest way. They are not to be blamed for pruning the trees, unless they wantonly destroy where such action is necessary.

If the people of Columbia would have their trees properly pruned, in the daytime and at the proper season, by a man who knows how to get them out of the way of the wires and save the trees, the water and light people would not need to do the pruning and the branches would not be cut down in a hurry in the dark by an electrician and not an expert tree pruner.

This problem comes up every year and can be solved only in the way indicated above.

People don't see anything wrong with the wires in the trees when conditions are perfect. The wire men can see that the wires are in the way, but condemnation is heaped upon them if they mention the matter to the tree owners. The wire men have not expressed a willingness to prune the trees in time of fair weather, and it is doubtful if the owners would allow them to proceed. The wire men think the trees along the streets should be removed, as the only way of keeping them out of the way of the wires.—F.

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## SLAVS FIRMLY DENY A DESIRE FOR PEACE

Russian People Insist They Will Fight Until Germany Loses.

## PEOPLE ARE UNITED

"Newspaper Talk of Russia Wanting Peace Is a German Lie."

By WILLIAM PHILIP SIMMS (United Press Staff Correspondent) PETROGRAD, Aug. 31.—"You can't write an article about peace in Russia," declared Sergius Shidlovsky, ex-Vice President of the third Imperial Duma and President of the Bureau of the Progressive Bloc as we paced the long, hardwood floor of the Duma lobby.

"You can't, because there is but one thing to be said about it—one short sharp, emphatic word—NO!"

This sums up fairly well the attitude of the Russian people regarding peace on any other basis than an Allied victory. Two years of war waged under trying circumstances finds them more determined than ever. They feel that they have just begun to fight because they are just now getting organized for fighting.

Rumors of a separate peace with Russia have been spread with considerable frequency. It has been said that there is even a Peace Party here, that a considerable element among the population demands peace. I have failed to discover such a party or such an element.

## Russia Won't Accept Peace.

"It is a German lie!" the President of the Duma, Mikhail Rodzianko said when I told him that neutrals had been informed more than once that Russia might accept separate peace. He did not say this in anger. Rather he smiled. His attitude was considerably like that of Mark Twain who, when informed of his own reported demise replied with a dry chuckle that the report had been grossly exaggerated.

Rodzianko was emphatic but unfretted. He appeared to know whereof he spoke.

"Peace now would be the greatest blow ever suffered by Russia," Shidlovsky declared. "Perhaps our greatest benefit to be derived from war is our economic independence of Germany. Peace at this juncture would fail to give us this. Economically Germany has exploited us for long. She has called us the 'hinterland' of Europe peopled by Russian barbarians fit only to be her vassals and a source of profit.

"We have thrown off this yoke. The commercial treaty she imposed during our war with Japan, more beneficial to Germany than to us, no longer binds. When peace and victory come, Russia will hold the new freedom she has won and develop her own industries to the profit of her people. These are some of the benefits of

the war which Russia expects. Until Germany is beaten we can not get them. Can you wonder that every Russian says 'No!' when you mention peace now?"

## Must Beat Germany.

"But the peasants—about 80 per cent of your population—are they for war?" I asked. The leader of the biggest block, the controlling group in the Duma, replied with a satisfied smile:

"They are, and they have every right to be. They were never more prosperous than now. Their spirit is fine. You won't find any class of people in Russia more optimistic than they."

And he should know, being a landowner and farmer himself. He came direct from his plantation down near Moscow to take part in the Duma proceedings, fresh from among the countryfolk, the backbone of Russia. To the President of the Duma I put the question:

"What is the attitude of the peasant towards the war?"

"He is in for continuing it until Russia wins," was the reply. "He knows what German domination means and doesn't want it."

## Press Talk Is From Germans.

"American newspapers are reporting lots of peace talk these days," I suggested. "What do you think of it?"

"Seems mostly of German origin," President Rodzianko said. "Most of it appears to come from Berlin through your correspondents quoting German officials. The rest to all appearances is prepared by German agents in the United States."

"But all neutral countries are hearing considerable about peace. Do you believe there is a movement on foot to bring about an early end to the war?" I queried.

"All I can say is this," he answered. "Any peace talk now is unfriendly to the Allies, so I leave you to guess who is doing most of the talking. If it does the Germans any good, however, to talk peace, let them talk. It certainly does us no harm, still this is no time for neutrals to start negotiations."

Here the presiding officer of Russia's representative body laughed good naturedly, adding: "And if the United States tries to make peace between Germany and the Allies at this stage of the game, we will never forgive her."

## Was Very Emphatic.

Though said in the most pleasant fashion imaginable, the Duma leader clearly meant what he said. Moreover I had been expecting the remark. Statesmen in France had said the same thing to me, time and again. Englishmen say it. And the Italians, Belgians, and Serbs. In Russia, as in other Allied countries, one is frequently asked the question:

"Is America going to try to make peace?" By the way it is asked one can detect resentment. No ally likes the idea. Prime Minister Aristide Briand, of France, upon assuming office declared:

"We will have peace through victory." In Russia they say the same thing.

## Issues 23,000 Folders.

Twenty-three thousand 4-page folders, describing the Short Course in agriculture, are being sent out in letters from the departments of the College of Agriculture. The folder contains seven pictures of buildings at the University and work being done by Short Course students.

## Daily Market Report

By United Press.

EAST ST. LOUIS, Ill., Aug. 31.—CATTLE RECEIPTS—5,000, including 600 Texans. Market strong. Native

beef steers \$7.00@10.00. Yearling steers and heifers \$8.50@10.25. Cows \$5.50@7.75. Stockers and feeders \$3.20@5.00. Calves \$6.00@11.75. Texas steers \$5.50@8.50. Cows and heifers \$4.50@8.00.

HOG RECEIPTS—5,000. Market 20 cents higher. Mixed and butchers \$11.20@11.50. Good and heavy \$11.40@11.50. Rough \$9.90@10.25. Light \$11.20@11.45. Pigs \$7.60@11.00. Bulk \$11.20@11.45.

SHEEP RECEIPTS—1,500. Market steady. Slaughter ewes \$5.00@7.25. Breeding ewes \$9.00@10.00. Yearlings \$6.00@9.50. Lambs \$7.00@10.60.

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## THE UNIVERSITY HIGH SCHOOL

will open September 18. The Principal, Mr. Dienst, will be in his office in the high school building, beginning September 6, from 3 to 5 p. m. each day, and on Saturdays in addition to the afternoon hours, from 10 to 12 a. m. All those who wish to advise with him concerning their work or make arrangements for their stay in Columbia may call upon him during these hours.

(Signed) J. L. MERIAM

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